

Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Volume 19 • Number 7 • March 11, 2003



Mr.
Squirrel's
Mystery
Photo

Page 4

Libraries Call for Faculty, Student Participation in Web Survey

The Libraries will again conduct the LibQUAL+™ survey in April. This time there will be a total of 318 participating institutions including all OhioLink members, and the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) and universities in England. The database being built from the surveys provides a rich source for understanding service quality in academic libraries.

In the Spring of 2001 and 2002, the university in conjunction with 169 academic and research libraries participated in a research and development project sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). The purpose of the project, LibQUAL+™, is to define and measure library service quality nationally across institutions and to create useful quality-assessment tools for local planning.

The Libraries will survey a random sample of 900 graduate students, 1200 undergraduates and 900 faculty using an Internet-based scalable Web interface and protocol to ask library users about their library service expectations. An email message will be sent to each individual in the sample explaining LibQUAL+ and asking them to participate and to complete the survey on the Web. The total time for a respondent to take the survey is around 10 minutes. The benefit to understanding the Libraries' ability to deliver information to the campus is very great.

A Goodbye and a Beginning

When asked about Cindy Gilbert's contributions to the fire protection engineering department, people seem at a loss for words. It's not that they don't know what to say, it's that they don't know where to begin.

However, many words and good wishes found shape in the form of a rare salute at a large party in her honor recently. Gilbert, who had to leave the department when her position was reduced to a part-time one after budget cuts, had little idea of what was to come.

"The Thursday night before the party, I was taken to dinner by some of the faculty. All I was told was, don't make plans between 3 and 5 on Friday," says Gilbert, who is now executive assistant to Karen Thornton, assistant director of the Hinman CEOs Entrepreneurship Program.

See GILBERT, page 4

Terrapins Take to the Capital

Pride Day a Chance to Show Support in Annapolis



PHOTO BY MONETTE AUSTIN BAILEY

James Rzepkowski (third from left), chief deputy minority whip for the Maryland House and a Maryland alumnus, stands with (l to r) dad Walter Rzepkowski, sister Donna Coberly, nephew Rick Coberly, Testudo and brother-in-law Scott Coberly (also a Maryland alumnus) during Terrapin Pride Day.

Valerie Brackins sat at a table looking over the loud crowd eating sandwich lunches and talking about education, politics "and other things." The Residential Facilities employee was attending her first Terrapin Pride Day, something she said she had to do.

"Because of the budget cuts." In fact, it is why many either rode one of six buses or drove themselves to Annapolis last week. In a letter to the campus community, Vice President for University Relations

Brodie Remington urged employees to make an effort—as Maryland citizens—to show their support for higher education.

"You are, I am sure, all too familiar with the budget cuts that have hit the University of Maryland and all of public higher education in the state. State support of College Park has been reduced by a total of \$40 million. And this is the good news!" he wrote.

"The situation could get worse, and if so,

See PRIDE DAY, page 3

Connecting Noise, Sea Creature Communication

University Researcher Pushes for More Study

Loud underwater sounds created by humans may harm whales and other sea creatures, but more research is needed, according to Maryland biologist Arthur Popper and his colleagues.

Popper, a professor in the Department of Biology, sat on a National Research Council committee that released a report last month calling for further study of ocean noise. The impact of loud underwater sounds on sea life is an intensely debated subject. Many experts say the issue is still poorly understood.

Fish and sea mammals use sound to communicate and learn about their underwater habitats where visibility is typically poor.

"If you put all kinds of other sounds [underwater] you not only effect the ability of [sea creatures] to communicate, which is dramatic, but you also effect the ability of the animal to hear sounds that are biologically relevant," Popper said. "If you go into a very noisy room and somebody yells fire, you may not hear it, where if it's a quiet room, you will hear it. That background noise...will impact on your ability to tell what's going on around you."

The controversy has centered on low frequency active sonar—a new technology being developed by the U.S. Navy, which uses loud underwater sounds to locate quiet enemy submarines. Environmental campaigners compare the noise generated by the sonar system to the sound of a 747 jet engine.

But the Navy is not the only source of underwater sound. Since the Industrial Revolution, the oceans have become louder. Ships, dredging, construction, oil drilling and seismic surveys are some of the other sources of noise in the oceans, according to the National Research Council report.

"Supertankers are noisy things...and also seismic devices the oil industry uses," Popper said.

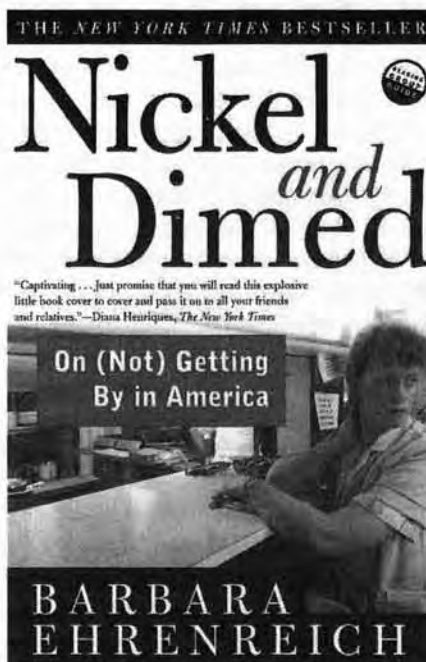
The National Resources Defense Council, one of the groups leading a lawsuit against the Navy, has fought an aggressive battle against the sonar. "We have already seen the carnage caused by the Navy's use of intense sonar. In March 2000,

See POPPER, page 3

Author Recounts Being "Nickel and Dimed"

Barbara Ehrenreich told an audience of nearly 200 that the gulf between the rich and poor in America is widening and the ranks of the middle class are dwindling. Author of the best-selling book "Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America," Ehrenreich spoke last Wednesday night in 1412 Physics as part of the Camille Rappaport memorial lecture, named for the undergraduate government and politics major who died in 1998.

In her talk, entitled "Nickel and Dimed: Social Justice and the American Dream," she spoke about her experience as part of the working poor. At lunch with a Harper's editor one day, she said she suggested having some-



Activist, author and humorist Barbara Ehrenreich's 2001 book recounts her experience as a low-wage worker.

one go out and do the "old fashioned kind of journalism" and see if they could live on low wages. She became that

someone and her experience became a bestseller. She said she held five different jobs: waitress, motel housekeeper, maid with a housecleaning service, a nursing home aide and a WalMart associate.

"No one is an employee anymore. Everyone is an associate or a team-member, as if they were going to sit down with the board and discuss company policy," Ehrenreich said of these low-paying jobs.

"I survived and I never got fired," she declared.

But she said she failed at living on her wages alone. She said she averaged \$7 per hour and always had difficulty paying even the lowest rent. For example, in Key West, where

See DIMED, page 3

dateline maryland

YOUR GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY EVENTS: MARCH 11-18

TUESDAY

march 11

6-9 p.m., OIT Peer Training: Javascript: Learn to Read and Interpret Scripting

4404 Computer and Space Science. The class is designed to give the user an understanding of Javascripting code. The class fee is \$10 for students and \$20 for faculty and staff. Register online at www.oit.umd.edu/pt.

7:30-9:30 p.m., The State of Black Maryland Forum

2003 Multi-Purpose Room, Nyumburu Cultural Center. Members of the Maryland Black Legislative Caucus will discuss community conditions, legislative initiatives, future challenges in the state and student leadership. In attendance will be Del. Salima Siler Marriott of Baltimore City and Sen. Nathaniel Exum of Prince George's County. Moderators are Sharon Harley of African American studies and Ron Walters of government and politics. For more information, contact Clyde Woods at 5-1158 or cwoods@aasp.umd.edu.

WEDNESDAY

march 12

8:45 a.m.-4 p.m., OIT Short-course Training: Intermediate MS Access 4404 Computer and Space Science. Participants will learn how to normalize sample tables, establish relationships between tables, design select queries, customize the design of tables, forms and reports, and more. The fee is \$90. To register, visit www.oit.umd.edu/sc. For more information, contact Jane S. Wieboldt at 5-0443 or oit-training@umail.umd.edu.

Noon-1:30 p.m., Recruiting and Retaining a Diverse Faculty Nyumburu Cultural Center. Yolanda T. Moses, president of the American Association for Higher Education, will discuss strategies. For more information, contact Marie P. Ting at 5-5201 or daisy@wam.umd.edu.

Noon-1 p.m., Career Needs Assessment of University of Maryland Graduate Students 0114 Counseling Center, Shoemaker Building. With Career Center Director Linda Gast and Career Center

Research Associate Kathleen Lis Dean. For more information, contact Vivian S. Boyd at vb14@umail.umd.edu.

THURSDAY

march 13

4 p.m., Graduate School Distinguished Lecturer:

Poet John Ashbery 0200 Skinner Building. Ashbery will present this year's first Graduate School Distinguished Lecture. Ashbery has written about 20 works of poetry, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror" (1975) and "Some Trees" (1956), selected by W.H. Auden for the Yale Younger Poet Series. For more information, contact Anna Salajegheh at 5-8140.

4-6 p.m., Works-in-Progress Seminar Series: Dissertations in Progress See For Your Interest, page 4.

FRIDAY

march 14

Noon, Numerical Modeling of River Terrace Formation in Response to Oscillating Climate 1201 Physics Building. With Greg Hancock of William and Mary College. Coffee and tea will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. in the Geology Building. For more information, contact Karen Prestegard at kpresto@geol.umd.edu.

Noon, Semiochemical Functions of Metathoracic Scent Gland Compounds of Plant Bugs: Pheromone, Kairomone or Action Inhibitors? 1130 Plant Sciences Building. Qing-He Zhang will present. For more information, visit www.entomology.umd.edu.

Noon-1:15 p.m., The Ethos of the Black Aesthetic: An Exploration into Larry Neal's Vision of Liberated Future 0200 Skinner. With Eric King Watts of Wake Forest University. Part of the Department of Communication Colloquium Series. For more information, contact Trevor Parry-Giles at 5-8947 or tp54@umail.umd.edu.

4-5:30 p.m., The Aeneid for a Lifetime Multi-Purpose Room, St. Mary's Hall. Zeta Nu, the University of Maryland chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, the classics honor society, presents

Susan Ford Wiltshire of Vanderbilt University as the 10th Annual Eta Sigma Phi lecturer. For more information, contact Jessica Dietrich at jd220@umail.umd.edu.

SATURDAY

march 15

1-2 p.m., Lecture-Demonstration with Danny Hoch Kogod Theatre, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. One of the first artists to bridge hip-hop and theatre, Danny Hoch will discuss his creative process and the ideas behind his plays and characters. His lecture is held in conjunction with his performances of "Jails, Hospitals and Hip-Hop," performed March 13 and 14 in the Kogod Theatre. For more information, contact Ben Fisler at 5-0383 or bdfisler@aol.com.

SUNDAY

march 16

3 p.m., University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition Finals Dekelbom Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Final round of the School of Music's annual competition among students competing for a chance to play with the Maryland Symphony Orchestra. For more information, visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

MONDAY

march 17

8:45 a.m.-4 p.m., OIT Short-course Training: Microsoft Word Level 2 4404 Computer and Space Science. Participants will learn to use section breaks to format a document, format text in columns and sort table data, create and use templates, create a fax template, merge a document with data to create variations, use macros, and more. The fee is \$90. To register, visit www.oit.umd.edu/sc. For more information, contact Jane S. Wieboldt at 5-0443 or oit-training@umail.umd.edu.

4 p.m., The Bad Mother? Marie-Antionette and the Politics of Maternity in the Age of Revolution 2110 Taliaferro Hall. The Center for Historical Studies presents a seminar with Thomas Kaiser, an

OCEE Thanks Campus Colleagues

Last week, Outlook left off several names in the Office of Continuing and Extended Education's thank you note to those who helped after a fire nearly destroyed the offices below them in the Hartwick building. Here are the additional names:

Gretchen Sacra, Environmental Services
Chris Benas, Environmental Services
Bill Hess, McKeldin Library
Lori Goetsch, McKeldin Library
Mark Wilkerson, McKeldin Library
Mary Dalto, McKeldin Library
Frank Hawkins, OIT NTS
Jane Hopkins, OIT NTS
Kathy Cole, OIT NTS
Tom Cantone, Legal Affairs
Julianna Bynoe, Department of Transportation Services

expert on 18th-century France, from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. This is the eighth event in the series "The Body and the Body Politic." Discussion will be based on a pre-circulated paper that can be obtained in the Department of History lounge, 2nd floor, Francis Scott Key, or by requesting an electronic copy at 5-8739 or historycenter@umail.umd.edu.

7:30 p.m., Annual Harp Studio Recital Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Works for solo harp and chamber ensembles by Debussy, Andres, Salzedo and Pierre. Free. For more information, visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

8 p.m., St. Patrick's Day Concert Dekelbom Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. The Philharmonia Ensemble performs free of charge. For more information, visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

TUESDAY

march 18

12:30-2 p.m., Works-in-Progress Seminar Series 0135 Taliaferro Hall. Join the Center for Renaissance & Baroque Studies for "Hans Memling's Diptych of Martin van Nieuwenhove and the Problem of Male Embodiment in 15th-Century Bruges," a presentation by Andrea Pearson of Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. Attendees are asked to read an abstract for the paper, available at 0139 Taliaferro Hall. Coffee and dessert will be provided. For more information, contact Karen Nelson at 5-6830 or visit www.crbs.umd.edu.

2-3:30 p.m., Adventures with Electronic Texts: Where Text Coding, Mathematics and Evolutionary Biology Meet 6137 McKeldin Library. Peter Robinson, senior

research fellow in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at De Montfort University will present. He is the developer of the textual-editing program Collate, used on many textual editing projects worldwide, and the Anastasia electronic publishing system. He is director of the Canterbury Tales Project and was editor of its first major electronic publication, "The Wife of Bath's Prologue," on CD-ROM (Cambridge UP, 1996). Reception and light refreshments will follow. For more information, visit www.oit.umd.edu/as/speakerseries.html.

For additional event listings, visit www.collegepublisher.com/outlook.

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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Letters to the editor, story suggestions and campus information are welcome. Please submit all material two weeks before the Tuesday of publication.

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calendar guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314 or 405. Calendar information for Outlook is compiled from a combination of informM's master calendar and submissions to the Outlook office. Submissions are due two weeks prior to the date of publication. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or send e-mail to outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

Dimed: Working and in Poverty

Continued from page 1

she worked as a maid, she said a small half-size trailer rented for \$625 per month, excluding utilities.

On working in Minnesota she recalled the desperation that led to her renting a one-room motel efficiency. She said the rent was high, sometimes as high as a motorist's nightly rental, but she didn't have to provide first month's rent and a security deposit.

"[First month's and security deposit] is such a barrier to stable housing for so many people," she said.

She described in detail the ordeal of living there: the smell of rat droppings permeating the room, moving to several rooms when the sewage backed up, and having no privacy because there were no shades on the window. She said she felt sorry for herself until she realized others in the motel were sharing rooms with spouses and children.

"I should also mention the rent for this place was \$250 a week," she said, "more than I was earning."

She said for most people these motels were the last step to homelessness.

Ehrenreich said she also had many advantages in the low-wage workforce: having no children, being white and doing this for a short time.

She criticized the tests administered to applicants for these jobs, claiming that drug testing was a violation of the Fourth Amendment's prohibition of unreasonable search and seizure. She also said an American Civil Liberties Union study found that drug testing didn't achieve its goals of reducing absenteeism and increasing productivity.

"So why are they doing it?" she asked. "It's a little ritual of humiliation."

Ehrenreich said she expected these jobs to be physically challenging, but was surprised at the mental challenge they presented. The biggest one she faced was learning and relearning the exact locations of the constantly rotating stock in the ladies' department at WalMart.

"The lesson for me was an important one: I will never use the word 'unskilled' to describe any job," she said.

She also said these jobs were made unnecessarily difficult by an atmosphere of distrust and intimidation festering in the work environment. Rules prohibiting talk among employees reminded her of being in junior high school. And now, from what's read since her experience, she believes she hasn't even seen the worst.

"There are ways in which many American workplaces are beginning to resemble what we think of as third-world sweatshops," she claimed.

One way she found particularly disturbing concerned adults having to ask to use the bathroom. She mentioned a conversation with a University of Iowa academic who had studied the issue of bathroom breaks. He told her there was an increasing number of job situations—assembly lines, cash registers—where the lack of bathroom breaks forced women to wear adult

diapers.

She said the most important thing she learned from her experience was the meaninglessness of the official poverty level. She said making \$7 per hour kept her well above the poverty level for one person. She criticized the determination of the poverty level, taking the cost of the minimal amount of food a family needs to survive and multiplying by three, for failing to account for housing inflation and health care.

The people she met supported themselves by pooling their wages, and said she would have had to get a roommate if she actually stayed a low-wage worker. Still, she said, many didn't make it. She recalled working alongside full-time working people living in their cars who didn't consider themselves homeless.

Ehrenreich had harsh criticism for President Bush's ideas for solving the poverty problem. She said the Bush administration's latest idea for women in poverty is to have them marry, "the idea being that a husband will help lift them out of poverty." Ehrenreich said she believed a woman's marital status shouldn't be the government's concern.

Ehrenreich said the biggest problem with Bush's plan was that poor women, like most, tend to marry within their own social class. She said blue-collar men, whom these women are most likely to marry, had experienced a significant decline in wages over the past few decades.

"It leads one to sit down and calculate, how many men does a woman have to marry to lift herself out of poverty?" Ehrenreich said, drawing laughter from the crowd. "And it's getting to be a big number. It's over two now."

Ehrenreich said she believed there was a connection between the extreme wealth of the few and the poor of so many. She also said poverty did not exist in isolated pockets, as she claimed Bush believed.

The Economic Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., she said, estimates that 29 percent of American families with a child under age 12 do not have enough money to meet basic needs. She said the federal government's estimate is 12 percent.

Expanding the scope of her discussion, she included those commonly considered middle class—schoolteachers, librarians and adjunct faculty—as potentially marginalized workers.

"Those of you who are working, have you figured out how many months you could go without a paycheck?" she asked.

After her speech, Ehrenreich invited questions and activists to stand up and speak a little on behalf of their cause.

The lecture was part of the semester-long seminar series "Political Women's Writing," co-sponsored by the Department of English, Women's Studies, the Curriculum Transformation Project, College Park Humanities and University Honors.

Popper: Sounds May Mislead Mammals

Continued from page 1

several whales and dolphins stranded themselves and died on beaches in the Bahamas," wrote actor Pierce Brosnan, a spokesman for the NRDC, in a recent direct mailing.

Environmental campaigners have focused on the Bahamas strandings and say that Navy sonar tests caused the beaked whales' inner ears to bleed and made them beach themselves, but Popper cautions that much remains unclear about the incident.

"There was bleeding in the brain, but not in the ear," Popper said.

Popper said that similar symptoms in humans would cause a "massive headache." Popper said it's possible that the whales became confused and stranded themselves because they were in an enclosed area of the sea surrounded by islands, but there is not enough data to be sure.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Arthur Popper studies the impact of noise on sea life.

"No one knows what happened to the mammals that didn't beach. They may have gone out between two islands, had a headache for a day or two and then were fine afterwards," Popper said.

Popper and the other scientists on the National Research Council committee hope that further research

will answer such questions. Their February report "Ocean Noise and Marine Mammals" calls for a single government agency to collect, organize and analyze data and for the establishment of an ocean noise monitoring program.

Popper, who researches the effect of underwater sounds on fish, has been on three National Research Council committees. Though the public debate has centered on whales, Popper said that fish are important too, and he was asked to join the committee "as a fish

spokesperson." Popper said fish are a more significant part of the human food chain and a source of food for marine mammals. To learn more about Popper's research, visit www.life.umd.edu/biology/popperlab.

—Stephen E. Mather, journalism graduate student

Pride Day: For Higher Education

Continued from page 1

the University's quality will be irreparably harmed and the impact will be felt directly by faculty, staff and students. The recent "threat" in Annapolis to eliminate the tuition remission program is just one example of the further harm that could come our way."

Part pep rally and more parts lobbying effort, Terapin Pride Day gives several constituencies an opportunity to show Maryland legislators just how important higher education is to them, and how high they feel it should be placed on the legislative agenda.

Last week's event, postponed from February because of snow storms, was the most successful ever, according to Tara Brown, with the Office of Legislative Affairs, in terms of numbers and of the various audiences gathered in attendance.

"It goes to show legislators that students, faculty, staff and alumni care about higher education," she said.

Approximately 500 people drove from the campus to Annapolis for an afternoon of short speeches, lunch and face time with representatives. Brackins, and a few fellow Denton Community workers, didn't plan to meet with elected officials, but wanted to show their support for bet-

ter funding.

"There will be no raises, but they're going to raise parking and health benefits," said Lorenza Sanchez. "They're going to take it from our checks."

During the two-hour event in the Miller Senate Building East, participants heard from Student Government Association President Brandon DeFrehn, President Mote, Senate President Mike Miller, Men's Basketball Coach Gary Williams, House Speaker Mike Bush and others. The overriding theme was maintaining excellence, echoing Mote's call for "maintaining momentum" from his state of the campus address given last semester.

"The future of the state depends on a great university...the flagship university has got to be the one," he said to a cheering crowd dressed mostly in red, black and gold. Speaking to how the university rises to excellence, Mote added that "the whole thing has to rise at the same time."

Williams echoed his thoughts from a sports perspective. "We're a part of the university. The academic achievement of our school...and President Mote have made it such an exciting place to be. My business degree is looking a lot better," he said.

It was academics that brought Natasha Clermont to Maryland, and to Annapolis. She works as a research coordinator for the National Foreign Language Center and has an application in at the Graduate School to study educational policy and leadership.

"I followed the rankings. There are so many great programs here. It's much more organized," she said, than her previous graduate program at Temple University. She came intending to pay her way through school and then realized that employees receive tuition remission. However, Clermont was concerned to hear the benefit being threatened.

James Rzepkowski, chief deputy minority whip for the Maryland House and a Maryland alumnus, also expressed concern about funding cuts. The eighth of eight children, he thanked his dad for paying for his schooling, but remembers he and his fraternity brothers collecting change from Route 1 drivers to raise money to keep Hornbake Library's 24 hour study room open in 1992 after severe budget cuts.

"There is no partisanship when it comes to love for the university," he said. "And we cannot allow what happened in '92 to happen again."

For Your Interest

Terps on Stage for Terps in Need

The University is hosting a talent show to raise funds for the Faculty and Staff Assistance Program (FSAP) Emergency Loan Fund. On Wednesday, March 12 from 3-5 p.m. in the Dekelboun Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, faculty and staff members will dazzle the campus community with their heretofore hidden talents.

Who knew there was a senior administrator on campus who plays banjo? How about the jazz singing member of the provost's staff? What about the virtuoso pianist who's an associate dean? Can you afford to miss the singing group of Elvis impersonators? What about the dancers, drummers and other talented performers who will show their stuff during this afternoon of entertainment?

The Emergency Loan program has helped many staff and faculty members in times of need. More than \$200,000 has been allocated for helping people address housing and health care needs and to help pay for utilities, child care and funeral expenses.

Tickets for the event are \$3 and can be purchased from the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center box office. You can also make tax-deductible donations to this fund. For more information, contact Marsha Guenzler-Stevens at mguenzle@union.umd.edu.

Laboratory Safety Orientation

The Department of Environmental Safety (DES) hosts a laboratory safety orientation training session every month. This training is offered to assure regulatory compliance. The next scheduled training session will be held on Wednesday, March 19 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in 3104 Chesapeake Building. Space is limited.

For more information and to reserve a place, contact Jeanette Cartron at (301) 405-2131 or jcartron@accmail.umd.edu.

Dissertations in Progress

Join the Center for Renaissance & Baroque Studies (CRBS) on March 13 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Maryland Room, Marie Mount Hall, for its next Works-in-Progress presentation. The monthly series offers a forum for campus scholars to share their most current research on the early modern period.

Abstracts for the papers are available at CRBS, 0139 Taliaferro; the Department of English, 3101 Susquehanna; and Art History and Archeology. Participants should obtain and read papers in advance of presentations to prepare for discussion.

The presenters will be:

- Brandi Adams, Department of English: "Entering into the

Study of Renaissance English Drama

- Bryan Herek, Department of English: "Early Modern Satire and the Bishops' Order of 1599: Manuscript, Print and Stage"

- Helen Hull, Department of English: "An Officer and a Gentlewoman: Representing the Monarch in If You Know Not Me, You Know Nobody."

For more information, visit www.inform.umd.edu/crbs.

2003 Spring Career Fair

The Career Center will hold its Spring Career Fair on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 18 and 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Stamp Student Union.

Open to graduate and undergraduate students of all majors and to Maryland alumni, the fair provides a forum to discuss full-time, part-time, internship and summer job opportunities, and is an ideal place for job seekers to network.

For more information, contact Christopher Irwin at (301) 314-7225 or cirwin@ds9.umd.edu, or visit www.careercenter.umd.edu.

Huh? Where'd the Lawn Go?

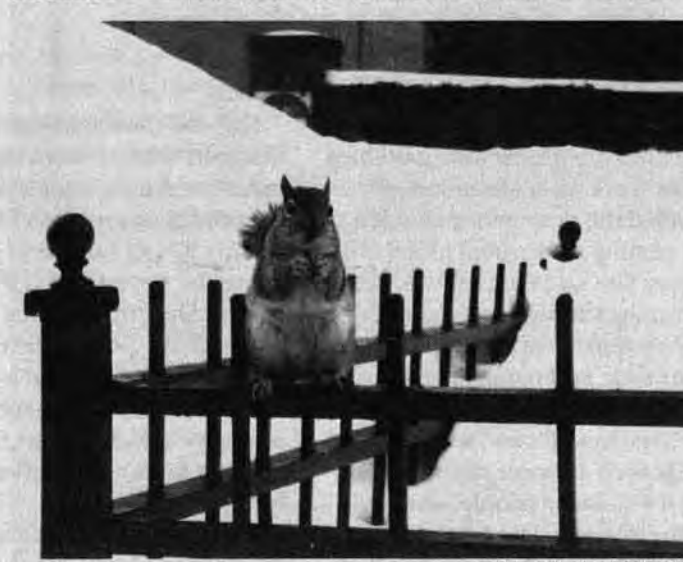


PHOTO BY TOM VENTSIAS

Imagine our furry friends' surprise last month when the campus, their favorite foraging ground, disappeared under unprecedentedly high mounds of fluffy frozen white.

Most readers will be able to answer the what and the when in the above Mystery Photo, but anyone who might be able to discern *where* it was taken will really impress Outlook staffers and fellow readers. Send your educated guesses to outlook@accmail.umd.edu, or by campus mail to Outlook, 2101 Turner Hall, by 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 13. A winner will be selected at random from among the correct answers and will be announced in the March 18 issue of Outlook.

Gilbert: Receives an Outpouring of Love

Continued from page 1

Students and alumni from the department not only gathered dozens of friends for a party at the University Golf Club clubhouse, but arranged for two fire trucks, from Berwyn Heights Station 14 and College Park Station 12, to raise their ladders and display a sign saying, "We love you, Cindy," outside the clubhouse's front doors. Gilbert says this is a rare and high salute in the firefighting community.

"I know that they don't do that for anybody," she says, adding that the last time she saw it was when she attended the funeral of her boyfriend's father in 1995.

Gilbert says there aren't words great enough to express what she felt then and will always feel for the department, especially the students. Chair Marino DiMarzo found quite a few words about Gilbert, though.

"She's fantastic. She's not good, she's extremely good with students and alumni, especially alumni, which was her hallmark," he says. Though Gilbert's main duties were administrative, she made it her job to help students get into the program, find summer work, land employment after graduation and many other things. DiMarzo said it isn't unusual to run into an alumnus in the profession who mentions Gilbert as an important piece of their time at Maryland.

"When people found out she was leaving, I got quite a number of e-mails from all over the country," says DiMarzo, "from alums who were here 10 years

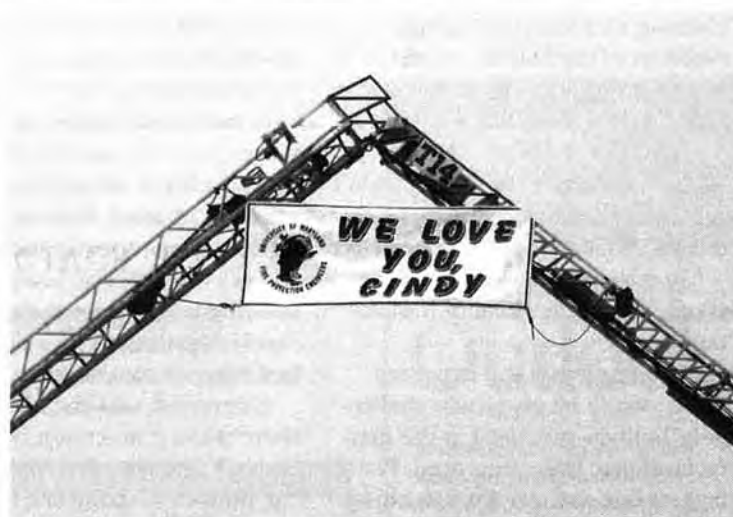


PHOTO BY DARRYL NEMETH

Fire trucks from Berwyn Heights Station 14 and College Park Station 12 raised their ladders in salute to Cindy Gilbert in front of the University Golf Course clubhouse.

ago who are now in the Navy, presidents of companies..."

Erica Kuligowski, a graduate student who now works at the National Institute of Standards and Technology studying the movement of people in buildings during evacuations, said when Gilbert first mentioned her departure to a few students and alums about one month ago, word spread quickly.

"She's amazing, so personable and supportive of us no matter what we do. When new people come in, they see her smiling face. It was such a warm impression," says Kuligowski. "And she never forgets a name and a face."

Gilbert, who has been on the campus since the late 1980s, credits the students for her 12 years with fire protection engineering (FPE), saying that they take just as good care of her as she does of them. She values the trust they showed by confiding in her and asking for

assistance. It is the small, familiar atmosphere of FPE that first lured her from the engineering dean's office.

"It was fun to do what I did and to see how they were affected by my presence there. Dealing with the students was the favorite part of my job," says Gilbert. "They put the fun and variety in my day."

DiMarzo says it's unfortunate that he lost such a valuable part of his small department. In fact, Gilbert was the only FPE staff person. "There was no reason for her to go anywhere, but that is one of the effects of this budget problem."

Gilbert says she looks forward to making alumni connections for the Hinman program like she did for FPE. Her new colleagues tease her that they won't be able to top her FPE send-off.

"They were 12 very rewarding, happy years, but I am happy here."